Amendments to the claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for provisioning logical circuits for intermittent use in a data network, the method comprising:

receiving at least one customer order for routing data in the data network for a predetermined time period;

provisioning at least one logical circuit in the data network for routing the customer data during the predetermined time period, wherein provisioning the at least one logical circuit ~~comprises:~~ comprises specifying a threshold value associated with at least one of a committed information rate or a committed burst size and configuring the at least one logical circuit to discard a frame communicated via the at least one logical circuit in response to determining that the threshold value has been exceeded;

~~receiving, from the at least one customer order, logical circuit parameter data at a logical element module;~~

~~adding the at least one customer request to a first batch of logical circuits to be created at the predetermined time;~~

~~locating, at the logical element module, at least one network device and at least one programming port on at least one switch;~~

~~utilizing the at least one network device and the at least one programming port to create the at least one logical circuit in the first batch at the predetermined time;~~

adding the at least one logical circuit to a deletion batch; and

disconnecting the at least one logical circuit ~~in the deletion batch~~ at the end of the predetermined time period.

2.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein provisioning the at least one logical circuit ~~for routing customer data during the predetermined time period~~ comprises provisioning the at least one logical circuit prior to the start of the predetermined time period.

3.	(Original) The method of claim 2, wherein provisioning the at least one logical circuit prior to the start of the predetermined time period comprises:

determining a maintenance window prior to the start of the predetermined time period; and

provisioning the at least one logical circuit during the maintenance window.

4.	(Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein disconnecting the at least one logical circuit at the end of the predetermined time period comprises disconnecting the at least one logical circuit following the end of the predetermined time period.

5.	(Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein disconnecting the at least one logical circuit following the end of the predetermined time period comprises:

determining a maintenance window following the end of the predetermined time period; and

disconnecting the at least one logical circuit during the maintenance window.

6.	(Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating trap data for each logical circuit during the predetermined time period, wherein the trap data comprises utilization statistics for the at least one logical circuit.

7.	(Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the utilization statistics comprise the percent utilization of the at least one logical circuit during the predetermined time period.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the customer order comprises a quality of service parameter for the logical circuit.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the quality of service parameter comprises at least one of:

an unspecified bit rate;

a variable bit rate; and

a committed bit rate.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one logical circuit is a permanent virtual circuit.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one logical circuit is a switched virtual circuit.

12.   (Not Presented)

13.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data network is a frame relay network.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data network is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for provisioning logical circuits for intermittent use in a data network, the system comprising:

at least one network device ~~for establishing~~ to establish a communications path for at least one logical circuit in the data network; and

~~a logical element module, in communication with the at least one network device, for receiving trap data generated by the at least one network device, wherein the trap data comprises utilization statistics for the at least one logical circuit; and~~

a network management module, ~~in communication with the logical element module, for~~ to:

~~receiving~~ receive at least one customer order for routing data in the data network during a predetermined time period;

provision~~ing~~ the at least one logical circuit for routing the customer data during the predetermined time period, wherein provisioning the at least one logical circuit ~~comprises:~~ comprises specifying a threshold value associated with at least one of a committed information rate or a committed burst size and configuring the at least one logical circuit to discard a frame communicated via the at least one logical circuit in response to determining that the threshold value has been exceeded;

~~receiving, from the at least one customer order, logical circuit parameter data at a logical element module;~~

~~adding the at least one customer request to a first batch of logical circuits to be created at the predetermined time;~~

~~locating, at the logical element module, at least one network device and at least one programming port on at least one switch;~~

~~utilizing the at least one network device and the at least one~~

~~programming port to create the at least one logical circuit in the first~~

~~batch at the predetermined time;~~

add~~ing~~ the at least one logical circuit to a deletion batch; and

disconnect~~ing~~ the at least one logical circuit ~~in the deletion batch~~

following the end of the predetermined time period.

16.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the network

management module, in provisioning the at least one logical circuit ~~for routing customer data~~

~~during the predetermined time period~~, is operative to provision the at least one logical circuit

prior to the start of the predetermined time period.

17.   (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the network management module,

in provisioning the at least one logical circuit prior to the start of the predetermined time

period, is operative to:

determine a maintenance window prior to the start of the predetermined time

period; and

provision the at least one logical circuit during the maintenance window.

18.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the network

management module, in disconnecting the at least one logical circuit following the end of the

predetermined time period, is operative to:

determine a maintenance window following the end of the predetermined time

period; and

disconnect the at least one logical circuit during the maintenance window.

19.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, ~~wherein the utilization statistics comprise the~~ further comprising a logical element module, in communication with the at least one network device and the network management module, to receive trap data generated by the at least one network device, wherein the trap data comprises a percent utilization of the at least one logical circuit during the predetermined time period.

20.   (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the customer order comprises a quality of service parameter for the logical circuit.

21.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the quality of service parameter comprises at least one of:

an unspecified bit rate;

a variable bit rate; and

a committed bit rate.

22.   (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one logical circuit is a permanent virtual circuit.

23.   (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one logical circuit is a switched virtual circuit.

24.   (Original) The system claim 15, wherein the data network is a frame relay network.

25.   (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the data network is an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) network.

26.   (Currently Amended) A method for provisioning logical circuits for routing

logical circuit data in a data network during a predetermined time period, the method

comprising:

receiving at least one customer order for routing the logical data in the data

network during the predetermined time period;

determining a maintenance window prior to the start of the predetermined

time period;

provisioning the at least one logical circuit during the maintenance window,

wherein provisioning the at least one logical circuit ~~comprises:~~ comprises specifying

a threshold value associated with at least one of a committed information rate or a

committed burst size and configuring the at least one logical circuit to discard a frame

communicated via the at least one logical circuit in response to determining that the

threshold value has been exceeded;

~~receiving, from the at least one customer order, logical circuit~~

~~parameter data at a logical element module;~~

~~adding the at least one customer request to a first batch of logical~~

~~circuits to be created at the predetermined time;~~

~~locating, at the logical element module, at least one network device~~

~~and at least one programming port on at least one switch;~~

~~utilizing the at least one network device and the at least one~~

~~programming port to create the at least one logical circuit in the first batch at~~

~~the predetermined time;~~

~~adding the at least one logical circuit to a deletion batch;~~

~~generating trap data for each logical circuit during the predetermined time~~

~~period, wherein the trap data comprises utilization statistics for the at least one logical~~

~~circuit;~~

determining a maintenance window following the end of the predetermined time period; and

disconnecting the at least one logical circuit ~~in the deletion batch~~ during the maintenance window.